Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please amend claims 7, 13, 16, 19 and 20 as follows:

1. (previously presented): A computer implemented method of tracking a plurality of retail performance metric records within a transaction, each retail performance metric record being a function of a retail performance metric type and the time elapsed waiting for and receiving an input, comprising the steps of:

receiving an input indicative of an event occurring at a point of sale (POS) station during a transaction, wherein the event occurring at the POS station is a scan operation, a weighing operation, a key operation, or a tender operation;

recording an entry record indicative of the input received at the POS station during the transaction;

recording a retail performance metric record, the retail performance metric record being a function of the retail performance metric type and the time elapsed waiting for and receiving an input;

associating the retail performance metric record with the entry record; and

repeating the steps of receiving an input indicative of an event occurring at the POS station during the transaction, recording a retail performance metric record, and associating for a plurality of events during the transaction.

2. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the associating step comprises combining the retail performance metric record with the entry record.

3. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the entry record includes a unique entry identifier value and the associating step comprises including the unique entry identifier field value of the entry record with the retail performance metric record.

4. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the associating step comprises adding a pointer to the retail performance metric record, wherein the pointer references the entry record.

5. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the associating step comprises adding a link to the retail performance metric record, wherein the link references the entry record.

6. (original): The method of claim 2, wherein the entry record after addition of the retail performance metric record comprises an entry identifier field, an entry type field, a time of entry field, and an elapsed time field.

7. (currently amended): A computer implemented system for tracking a plurality of retail performance metric records within a transaction, each retail performance metric record being a function of a retail performance metric type and the time elapsed waiting for and receiving an input, comprising:

a processor for receiving and transmitting data; and

a memory coupled to the processor, the memory having stored therein sequences of instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to receive an input indicative of an event occurring at a point of sale (POS) station during a transaction, record an entry record indicative of the input received at the POS station during the transaction, wherein

the event occurring at the POS station is a scan operation, a weighing operation, a key operation, or a tender operation, record a retail performance metric record, the retail performance metric record being a function of the retail performance metric type and the time elapsed waiting for and receiving the input, associate the retail performance metric record with the entry record, and repeat the steps of receiving an input indicative of an event at the POS station during the transaction, recording a retail performance metric record, and associating for a plurality of events during the transaction.

8. (original): The system of claim 7, wherein the memory further includes sequences of instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to combine the retail performance metric record with the entry record.

9. (original): The system of claim 7, wherein the memory further includes sequences of instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to include an entry identifier field in the entry record and to associate the retail performance metric record with the entry record by including the entry identification field value of the entry record in the retail performance metric record.

10. (original): The system of claim 7, wherein the memory further includes sequences of instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to associate the retail performance metric record to the entry record by adding a pointer to the retail performance metric record wherein the pointer references the entry record.

11. (original): The system of claim 7, wherein the memory further includes sequences of instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to associate the retail

performance metric record to the entry record by adding a link to the retail performance metric record wherein the link references the entry record.

12. (original): The system of claim 8, wherein the entry record after combination with the retail performance metric record comprises an entry identification field, an entry type field, a time of entry field, and an elapsed time field.

13. (currently amended): A computer implemented method of tracking a plurality of retail performance metric records within a transaction, each retail performance metric record being a function of a time type category and the time elapsed waiting for and receiving an input, comprising the steps of:

receiving an input indicative of an event occurring at a point of sale (POS) station during a transaction, wherein the event occurring at the POS station is a scan operation, a weighing operation, a key operation, or a tender operation;

recording an entry record indicative of the input received at the POS station during the transaction;

determining a time type category of the input received;

recording a retail performance metric record, the retail performance metric record being a function of the time type category and the time elapsed waiting for and receiving an input;

associating the retail performance metric record with the time type category; and

repeating the steps of receiving an input indicative of an event occurring at the POS station during the transaction, determining, recording the retail performance metric record, and associating for a plurality of events during the transaction.

14. (original): The method of claim 13, wherein the associating step comprises adding a pointer to the retail performance metric record, wherein the pointer references a time type category.

15. (original): The method of claim 13, wherein the associating step comprises adding a link to the retail performance metric record, wherein the link references a time type category.

16. (currently amended): A computer implemented system for tracking a plurality of retail performance metric records within a transaction, each retail performance metric record being a function of a ~~retail performance metric~~time type category and the time elapsed waiting for and receiving an input, comprising:

a processor for receiving and transmitting data; and

a memory coupled to the processor, the memory having stored therein sequences of instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to receive an input indicative of an event occurring at a point of sale (POS) station during a transaction, wherein the event occurring at the POS station is a scan operation, a weighing operation, a key operation, or a tender operation, record an entry record indicative of the input received at the POS station during the transaction, determine the time type category of the input received, record a retail performance metric record, the retail performance metric record being a function of the ~~retail performance metric~~time type category and the time elapsed waiting for and receiving the input, associate the retail performance metric record with the time type category, and repeat the steps of receiving an input indicative of an event occurring at the POS station during the transaction,

determining the time type category of the input received, recording the retail performance metric record, and associating for a plurality of events during the transaction.

17. (original): The system of claim 16, wherein the memory further includes sequences of instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to associate the retail performance metric record to the time type category by adding a pointer to the retail performance metric record wherein the pointer references the time type category.

18. (original): The system of claim 16, wherein the memory further includes sequences of instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to associate the retail performance metric record to the time type category by adding a link to the retail performance metric record wherein the link references the time type category.

19. (currently amended): A computer implemented method of tracking a plurality of retail performance metric records within a transaction, each retail performance metric record being a function of a retail performance metric type, a time type category and the time elapsed waiting for and receiving an input, comprising the steps of:

receiving an input indicative of an event occurring at a point of sale (POS) station during a transaction, wherein the event occurring at the POS station is a scan operation, a weighing operation, a key operation, or a tender operation;

recording an entry record indicative of the input received at the POS station during a transaction;

determining a time type category of the input received;

recording a retail performance metric, record the retail performance metric record being a function of the retail performance metric type, the time type category and the time elapsed waiting for and receiving an input;

associating the retail performance metric record with the entry record and with the time type category; and

repeating the steps of receiving an input indicative of an event occurring at the POS station during the transaction, determining a time type category of the input received, recording the retail performance metric record, and associating for a plurality of events during the transaction.

20. (currently amended): A computer implemented system for tracking a plurality of retail performance metric records within a transaction, each retail performance metric record being a function of a retail performance metric type, a time type category and the time elapsed waiting for and receiving the input, comprising:

a processor for receiving and transmitting data; and

a memory coupled to the processor, the memory having stored therein sequences of instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to receive input indicative of an event occurring at a point of sale (POS) station during a transaction, wherein the event occurring at the POS station is a scan operation, a weighing operation, a key operation, or a tender operation, record an entry record indicative of the input received at the POS station during the transaction, determine the time type category of the input received, record a retail performance metric record the retail performance metric record being a function of the retail

performance metric type, the time type category and the time elapsed waiting for and receiving the input, associate the retail performance metric record with the time type category and the entry record, and repeating the steps of receiving an input indicative of an event occurring at the POS station during the transaction, determining a time type category of the input received, recording the retail performance metric record, and associating for a plurality of events during the transaction.